

To: Wall, Dan[wall.dan@epa.gov]
From: McKean, Deborah
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Subject: Statements - will call you right now

Gold King Mine Data, August 14, 2015

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Data from Gold King Mine Response

The EPA sediment samples collected in the Animas River from Bakers Bridge to north of Durango have been validated. EPA has done a review of the data which included a comparison to background to determine if the metal concentrations are consistent with pre-incident levels.

Metal results that exceeded pre-incident levels were subsequently compared to risk-based screening levels. No results exceeded recreational screening levels.

However, comparison to risk-based screening values found these exceedances to be below risk screening levels. The review and interpretation of these data was a collaborative effort that included state and local members of the unified command.

EPA Statement on Sediment Data Collected in the Animas River from Bakers Bridge to North of Durango

Farmington, New Mexico - August 14, 2015: Today, EPA has released additional water quality data from Aug. 7 to Aug. 10, 2015 for the Animas and San Juan Rivers from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation. Based upon the surface water sample results in New Mexico surface water concentrations are trending toward pre-event conditions.

To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine, water quality samples were collected from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 7, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury.

Surface water samples were collected on Friday, August 7, 2015, at four (4) locations prior to arrival of the plume along the Animas and San Juan Rivers in New Mexico. On Saturday, August 8, 2015, nine (9) locations were sampled after arrival of the plume.

EPA has continued to take additional samples to document the change in the concentration of metals in the river. EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal

officials in New Mexico to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 7 to Aug. 10, 2015.

Deborah L. McKean, Ph.D.

Chief, Superfund Technical Assistance

U.S. EPA, Region 8

1595 Wynkoop Street

Denver, CO 80202

Office: 303-312-6178

Cell: 303-579-4371